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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/016,726	10/30/2001	Jose Zayas-Rivera	ALPHA-0200	4495	
7590	12/17/2004	EXAMINER			
WEDDINGTON, KEVIN E					
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER			
1614					

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	ZAYAS-RIVERA ET AL.
Examiner Kevin E. Weddington	Art Unit 1614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2004.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16,20 and 30-50 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed. → 2, 10, 12, 13, 16, 20, 40-44 and 46-50
6) Claim(s) 1,11,14,15,38,39 and 45 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

The finality of the Office action dated August 11, 2004 has been vacated, so that new rejections can be made.

Claims 1-16, 20 and 38-50 are presented for examination.

Applicants' amendment filed October 5, 2004 has been received and entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-10, 12, 13, 16, 20, 40-44 and 46-50 are allowable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1, 11, 15 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for octadecanol, propanediol, hexadecanol, oleic acid, mineral oil, DI water, bees wax and Tween 60, does not reasonably provide enablement for all at least one inactive ingredient. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Applicants provide support for the inactive ingredients, octadecanol, propanediol, hexadecanol, oleic acid, mineral oil, DI water, bees wax and Tween 60 that are combined with perillyl aldehyde (see pages 16-18 of specification). However, the instant claims necessitated any "at least one inactive ingredient" which includes a *plethora* of other inactive ingredients. In other words, the "at least one inactive ingredient" includes a wide spectrum of other inactive ingredients and is not limited to only octadecanol, propanediol, hexadecanol, oleic, mineral oil, DI water, bees wax and Tween 60, which the specification provides support for.

Claims 1, 11, 15 and 45 are not allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for perillyl alcohol, does not reasonably provide enablement for other second active ingredient. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Applicants provide support for the addition of a second active ingredient, perillyl alcohol, added with perillyl aldehyde (see page 3, under Detailed Description). However, the instant claim necessitated any "second active ingredient" which includes perillyl alcohol and a *plethora* of other second ingredients. In other words, the "a second active ingredient" includes a wide spectrum of additives and is not limited to only perillyl alcohol, which the specification provides support for.

Claim 14 is not allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita et al., "Antifungal activity and molecular orbital energies of aldehyde compounds from oils of higher plants", Agricultural and Biological Chemistry (1979), 43(11), pages 2365-2371.

Kurita et al. teach the antifungal activity of perillaldehyde, also known as perillyl aldehyde, is well-known in the art.

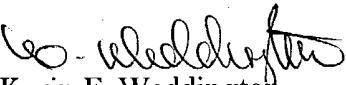
The instant invention differs from the cited reference in that the cited reference does not teach the concentration of perillyl aldehyde is used to inhibit the growth of fungi. However, the determination of a concentration having optimum effectiveness against fungi is well within the level of one having ordinary skill in the art, and the artisan would have been motivated to determine an optimum concentration to get the maximum effectiveness of perillyl aldehyde.

Claims 38 and 39 are not allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin E. Weddington whose telephone number is (571) 272-0587. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:00 am-7:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on (571) 272-0953. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kevin E. Weddington
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1614

K. Weddington
December 13, 2004